

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
February 19, 2025, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of February of the Board of Education of Peru Elementary School District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Learning Resource Center at Parkside School by Board President Patti Leynaud, on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Leynaud led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members John Atkins, Rob Ankiewicz, Josanne Bruins, Alison Goode, Simon Kampwerth, Austin Taylor, and President Patti Leynaud.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jamie Craven, Megan Baltikauski, Brent Ziegler, Julie Miller, Sara McDonald, Heather Baker, Mindy Davis, Nikki Chase, and Katie Budnick.

MOTION: Moved by Josanne Bruins, seconded by John Atkins, to approve the regular meeting agenda of February 19, 2025. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Goode, Leynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was no public comment, correspondence, or announcements at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- January 15, 2025 Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- January 15, 2025 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- January 29, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
- January 29, 2025 Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Monthly Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Atkins, Bruins, Leynaud, Taylor, and Goode. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Social Emotional Learning Presentation

The Northview and Parkside Social Workers, Behavior Interventionist and building Administration provided an update to the Board of Education on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in the district which involves presenting a comprehensive yet concise summary of current progress, challenges, success, and next steps. A structured approach was displayed to

ensure clarity and effectiveness. The importance of SEL is for a student to develop in terms of academic success, emotional regulation, interpersonal skills, and mental health.

Northview Addition Communication

Mr. Craven and Member Kampwerth presented an overview of the communication options for the Northview Addition, which will be shared with staff, parents, and the community. The Board has agreed to host an open meeting on March 19th at 5:30 p.m. in Northview's gymnasium to provide the public with information about the need for the expansion.

Administrative Reports

Mrs. McDonald's reported:

- Two 4th grade students will be recognized at the Starved Rock IPA Student Recognition Breakfast on Thursday, February 20th. James M. and Collins M. were chosen by the 4th grade team as students who deserve recognition because they are good citizens, treat others with respect, perform well in the classroom, and lead by example.
- Current enrollment is 606 students at Northview School.

Mr. Ziegler Reported:

- Current enrollment is 373 students at Parkside Middle School.
- SEL Saebrs Screenings were completed in January and have been reviewed by the SEL Committee and Tier 2 Base Education interventions have been assigned by Julie Miller, Parkside's Social Worker.
- Parkside will have two students recognized at the John Ourth Recognition Breakfast on February 20th. The two 8th graders are Ky N. and Carter L. They were chosen by staff as possessing positive character traits and a strong work ethic that defines the excellence of our student body.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Craven Reported:

- Trivia Night is quickly approaching. Thank you to the Foundation Board who is working hard to make this a successful event.
- In compliance with state mandates ISBE is offering a survey to our students in grades 4-8, teachers and staff, and also parents regarding our schools. The 5Essential Parent Survey is required each year. The window for school year 2024-2025 will be February 18, 2025 through March 28, 2025.
- The District's current three year lease with Apple for the district's MacBooks ends at the end of the school year. IT Director Tony Carlson will collect all current MacBooks and return them by June. I fall equipment meets the return return-grade, we will receive approximately \$30,000 in return which will be applied to our first least payment in July. The District will enter into a new lease with Apple.
- Due to spring break and the Board reorganization timeline, Mr. Craven recommends that regular April meeting be moved to Thursday, April 27, 2025.
- Mr. Craven recommends that the District contract with Illinois Valley Fire and Safety to perform fire extinguisher inspection and maintenance services as Arrow Protection Services recently announced that they are retiring and closing their business.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

February updates include the following:

- Wes Miller, Heather Baker, and Carmen Mata will begin ACCESS testing with our ELL students.
- Superintendent transition planning.
- On January 22nd Jacob Been came to Northview and will prepare bid documents for the Northview Exterior Lighting project to be completed this summer. He will also prepare estimate costs for replacing the gym lighting at the Parkside Gymnasium.
- A Finance Committee Meeting will need to be scheduled to establish salary increases for 2025-2026.
- IT Director Tony Carlson, Megan Baltikauski and Mr. Craven met on November 12th to discuss remaining ERate funds in this cycle. Future infrastructure needs have been identified to be included in the 2025-2026 budget. Tony also shared that we are at the end of our MacBook lease and he will be recommending a new lease that will begin in the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- SEL program updates were provided in today's meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of MacBook Lease

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Goode, to approve the MacBook Lease as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Goode, Bruins, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Leynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval to Reschedule the Regular April 2025 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Atkins, to approve the recommendation to reschedule the regular April 2025 Board of Education Meeting to Thursday, April 24, 2025. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Atkins, Taylor, Kampwerth, Bruins, Leynaud, and Goode. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Fire Extinguisher and Inspection Services

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to table the approval of the fire extinguisher and inspection services. This item will be revisited at a later date. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Kampwerth, Taylor, Ankiewicz, Goode, Bruins, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. for the discussion of information regarding the employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; and discussion of information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining; and discussion regarding denial of access to school property as it related to board policy 8:30. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Kampwerth Atkins, Bruins, Taylor, Goode, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Atkins, to return to Regular Session at 8:13 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Atkins, Bruins, Kampwerth, Leuynaud, Goode, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Approval of Employment Recommendation

MOTION: Moved by member Bruins, seconded by member Goode, to employ Katy Faber as a special education cross-categorical teacher at Parkside Middle School commencing the 2025-2026 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by member Goode, seconded by member Atkins, to employ Jennifer Calhoun as a speech language pathologist at Parkside Middle School commencing the 2025-2026 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by member Atkins, seconded by member Taylor, to employ Yeimy Forero as a bilingual paraprofessional at Parkside Middle School for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of FMLA Requests

MOTION: Moved by member Kampwerth, seconded by member Ankiewicz, to approve the FMLA request from Rhonda Giachetto. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by member Atkins, seconded by member Goode, to approve the FMLA request from Carmen Mata. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by member Goode, seconded by member Bruins, to approve the FMLA request from Kelli Funfsinn. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Employee Resignation

MOTION: Moved by member Atkins, seconded by member Kampwerth, to approve the resignation notice from Brittany Muller. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Bruins, to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Patti Leynaud, Board President

Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary